

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image processing device ~~having a function of recognizing a specific image from input image data,~~ comprising:

an output image data generation unit ~~which generates output~~ that performs a generation process to generate output image data from the input image data;

~~a recognition unit which recognizes the specific image; and~~

a converting unit that performs a converting process to convert the input image data into recognition image data; and

a recognition unit that performs a recognition process to recognize a specific image from the converted recognition image data,

~~a converting unit for converting the input image data into recognition image data in a format which can be recognized by the recognition unit.~~

wherein the output image data generation unit is adapted to wait until the recognition unit completes the recognition process for performing an image process subsequent to the generation process.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a format of the output image data and a format of the recognition image data are different from each other. ~~generation unit generates output image data in a page description language format from the input image data, and the converting unit converts the input image data into recognition image data in a raster image format.~~

Claim 3 (Original): An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein a color space of an image formed by the output image data and that of an image formed by the recognition image data are different from each other.

Claim 4 (Original): An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein resolution of an image formed by the output image data and that of an image formed by the recognition image data are different from each other.

Claim 5 (Original): An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein the number of bits used to represent a pixel in the out put image data and that in the recognition image data are different from each other.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein ~~each of the output image data generation unit and the converting unit performs a the~~ generation process per partial image[[,]] and the converting ~~recognition~~ unit performs the converting a process of recognizing the specific image per partial image, and when a possibility that at least the specific image is included is equal to or higher than a predetermined value, the recognition unit performs the recognition process per operation of recognizing the specific image on the partial image, and when a possibility that at least the specific image is included is equal to or higher than a predetermined value, the recognition unit performs the recognition process to recognize the specific image on the partial image together with another partial image.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein when ~~a result of recognition by the recognition unit indicates~~ recognizes the existence of the specific image, the output image data generation unit stops generation or output of the output image data.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An image processing method ~~of recognizing a specific image from input image data~~, comprising the steps of:

generating output image data from the input image data, and waiting to perform a image process subsequent to the generating until a process of recognizing has completed;

converting the input image data into recognition image data in a format which can be recognized; and

recognizing ~~[[the]]~~ a specific image by using the converted recognition image data.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein a format of the output image data and a format of the recognition image data are different from each other is in a page description language format, and the recognition image data is in a raster image format.

Claim 10 (Original): An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein a color space of an image formed by the output image data and that of an image formed by the recognition image data are different from each other.

Claim 11 (Original): An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein resolution of an image formed by the output image data and that of an image formed by the recognition image data are different from each other.

Claim 12 (Original): An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein the number of bits used to represent a pixel in the output image data and that in the recognition image data are different from each other.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein generation of the output image data and conversion to the recognition image data are performed per partial image, a process of recognizing the specific image is performed on the recognition image data per partial image and, when a possibility that at least the specific image is included is equal to or higher than a predetermined value, the ~~operation~~ process of recognizing the specific image is performed on the partial image together with another partial image.

Claim 14 (Original): An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein when recognition of the specific image is performed by using the recognition image data and existence of the specific image is recognized, generation or output of the output image data is stopped.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A storage medium readable by a computer, the storage medium storing ~~which stores~~ a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform a function for recognizing a specific image from input image data, the function comprising ~~program making the computer execute the steps of:~~

generating output image data from the input image data, and waiting to perform an image process subsequent to the generating until a process of recognizing has completed;

converting the input image data into recognition image data ~~in a format which can be recognized;~~ and

recognizing the specific image by using the converted recognition image data.

Claim 16 (New): An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein when the recognition unit recognizes the specific image, the output image data generation unit stops the generation or output of the output image data, even if the generation or output by the output image data generation unit has not completed.

Claim 17 (New): An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein when the recognition of the specific image is performed by using the recognition image data and the existence of the specific image is recognized, the generation or output of the output image data is stopped, even if the generation or output has not completed.

Claim 18 (New): An storage medium according to claim 15, wherein when recognition of the specific image is performed by using the recognition image data and existence of the specific image is recognized, generation or output of the output image data is stopped.

Claim 19 (New): A storage medium according to claim 15, wherein when the recognition of the specific image is performed by using the recognition image data and the existence of the specific image is recognized, the generation or output of the output image data is stopped, even if the generation or output has not completed.

Claim 20 (New): An image processing device comprising:

- an output image data generation unit that performs a generation process to generate output image data from input image data;
- a converting unit that performs a converting process to convert the input image data into recognition image data; and
- a recognition unit that performs a recognition process to recognize a specific image from the converted recognition image data,

wherein when the recognition unit recognizes the specific image, the generation or output of the output image data is stopped, even if the generation or output has not completed.

Claim 21 (New): An image processing device comprising:

an output image data generation unit that performs a generation process to generate

output image data from input image data;

a converting unit that performs a converting process to convert the input image data into recognition image data; and

a recognition unit that performs a recognition process to recognize a specific image from the converted recognition image data,

wherein the converting process is performed in parallel with the generation process, and the output image data generation unit is adapted to wait until the recognition unit completes the recognition process for performing an image process subsequent to the generation process.

Claim 22 (New): An image processing device comprising:

an output image data generation unit that performs a generation process to generate output image data from input image data;

a converting unit that performs a converting process to convert the input image data into recognition image data; and

a recognition unit that performs a recognition process to recognize a specific image from the converted recognition image data,

wherein the recognition process is performed in parallel with the generation process, and the output image data generation unit is adapted to wait until the recognition unit completes the recognition process for performing an image process subsequent to the generation process.

Claim 23 (New): An image processing device comprising:

and output image data generation unit that performs a generation process to generate output image data from input image data;

a converting unit that performs a converting process to convert the input image data into recognition image data; and

a recognition unit that performs a recognition process to recognize a specific image from the converted recognition image data;

wherein the converting process and the recognition process are performed in parallel with the generation process, and the output image data generation unit is adapted to wait until the recognition unit completes the recognition process for performing an image process subsequent to the generation process.